

In the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application

Listing of Claims:

1. (previously presented) A floor care appliance, comprising:
 - a suction nozzle;
 - a dirt collecting chamber;
 - a filter member located in the dirt collecting container, said filter member having an interior being divided radially into equally sized elongated portion;
 - a valve located adjacent to one end of said filter member for allowing suction to be applied to selected portions of said elongated portions;
 - an apparatus for rotating said filter member so that said one end of said filter member rotates past said valve; and
 - a port located in said valve for allowing atmospheric air to enter one of said elongated portions of said filter when said elongated portion is rotated in front of said port and such that in one full revolution of said filter every one of said elongated portions is rotated past said port.
2. (previously presented) The floor care appliance of claim 1, wherein said apparatus for rotating said filter member is selected from the group consisting of an electric motor and an air turbine.
3. (previously presented) The floor care appliance of claim 1, wherein atmospheric air entering said elongated portion flows through said elongated portion of said filter and through the filter wall into said dirt container to remove any dust cake buildup on the outer surface of said filter wall.
4. (cancel) A method of cleaning a filtration system, comprising:
 - providing a container;
 - providing a filter member having an interior being divided radially into equally sized

elongated portions in said container;

providing a valve located adjacent one end of said filter member so that suction is applied to selected elongated portions of said filter member;

providing a port in said valve open to the atmosphere;

rotating said filter member so that one end of said filter member is rotated past said port so that atmospheric air is allowed to enter one of said equally sized elongated portions of said filter when said equally sized elongated portion is rotated in alignment with said port and such that in one full revolution of said filter every one of said equally sized elongated portion s is rotated past said port.

5. (cancel) A filter assembly for a floor care appliance having a suction nozzle and a dirt collecting container, the filter assembly comprising:

a filter member rotatably mounted in the dirt collecting container, said filter member having a interior being divided into elongated portions, said elongated portions opening at one end of said filter member;

a valve located adjacent to said one end of said filter member allowing suction to be applied to said elongated portions, wherein said valve includes a blocking element covering at least one of said elongated portions from said suction, said blocking portion defining a port in fluid communication with a source of air having a greater pressure than the air in the unblocked elongated portions; and

an apparatus for rotating said filter member.